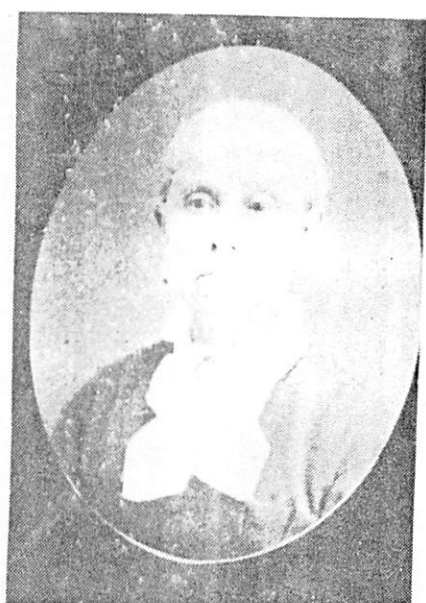


HISTORY OF VERONICA MURDOCH CALDOW GILES



Veronica Murdoch, daughter of James and Mary Murray Murdoch was born June 16, 1816, at Gaswater, Ayrshire Scotland, the fourth child in a family of eight. She was christened June 30, 1816 at Auchinleck Parish Church

Her father was employed in the coal mines at Gaswater and in 1831 lost his life trying to save a young man who had fallen into a mine shaft and was overcome by poisonous gas, or black damp, as it was called. The children who were old enough to work had to help in every way possible to assist their widowed mother. Veronica adapted herself to all kinds of hard work. She was not able to attend school regularly but took advantage of every opportunity to learn. She was a constant reader and retained well what she read and heard.

She was married to George Caldow February 15, 1839 when about 22 years of age. She is found in the 1841 Scottish Census records as follows: Genealogical Library Salt Lake City, Utah Film #101-820 M-N 604-610 Muirkirk (II Part) #1

Street or Road	Names	Age	Sex	Occupation	Born in Scotland
Small Burn	George Caldow	25	M	Drainer	Yes
	Veronica Murdoch	20	F		Yes
	Mary Caldow	1	F		Yes
	Hugh Caldow	20	M	Drainer	

Scottish Census 1851 Genealogical Library Salt Lake City, Utah Film #103-657-M-N

Village of Muirkirk #33					
Street or Road	Names	Relation to head	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth
#155	George Caldow	H	36	Lab.	Ayr. Auchinleck
	Veronica	W	34		"
	Mary	D	11		"
	George	S	9	Scholar	"
	James	S	7	"	"
	John	S	4		"

(Did not find her in the 1861, or 1871 Census for Muirkirk or Auchinleck. Nor her other children in Civil Registration that started in 1855 in Scotland.)

Veronica was supposedly the mother of eleven children, namely Mary, George, James, John, Alexander, William, Thomas, Joseph, David, Brigham and Nephi. (Genealogical sheets done by Ruby Hooper) Editors Note: David Lennox Murdoch said the following about her family in his writings about Murdochs and Missionary Journal 1905-6-7. in Scotland.

"Aunt Veronica was another member of that family from Grasswater and the Mother of a large family by her husband George Caldow in Scotland. She saw hard times, trials, and difficulties and poverty being a widow alone, her family having all married but one. He was old enough to be almost a Grandfather, she was immigrated and came with us in 1878."

"Sept. 10 1906: While in Cumnock I hunted up where Cousin Mary Caldow Baird used to live and found a daughter, a Mrs Nichol living not far from there. I had a talk with her. Her father is living, her uncle George, unmarried, lives with him. Her Uncle John lives at Burubank, a widower with a family. Her uncle James lives at Mauchline. She promised to write to her Grannie, Aunt Vachy, in Heber City and to let her know all about her relatives."

"March 15, 1907: Visited John Caldow at 14 Muirpark Street, Partick His wife is a fine player and singer." (David L. Murdoch was living at Glasgow at this time and had been to a Burubank on March 2, 1907 overnight so it was apparently close by.)

"March 19, 1907: Called this evening upon Mr & Mrs John Caldow and spent the whole evening with them."

"April 21, 1907: Saw Cousin John Caldow, wife & mother and had long talk with them."

"June 7, 1907: Called upon John Caldow at 24 Hayburn Street and spent the evening. Met his father, my cousin. (Glasgow)

Veronica's brother, John Murray Murdoch was the first of her family to join the Mormon Church, and he was able to help convert his sister Mary Mair, Mother Mary Murray Veronica, and Janet Lennox Murdoch, wife of his brother, William. Veronica's fist baptism date in Murdoch family records is September 1852 which would have been the same month that John Muray Murdoch would have reached the Salt Lake City, Utah. She was rebaptised on 28 July 1878 in Utah.

Veronica's mother attempted to come with the Mormon Handcart Company and died at Chimney Rock, Nebraska, October 3, 1856. Her sister, Mary Mair, came next in 1866. Their histories have all been given.

In 1878, her brother, William, and family who had also resided in Muirkirk where she lived for many years, made plans to come to Utah. (Janet Lennox's oldest sister named Marion married a Caldow who I think would be named William who was also in the Scottish Census Records in Muirkirk, with his wife and children, in 1841, 1851, 1861, and 1871. He had a son named David who David L. Murdoch visited with in Muirkirk while on his mission. Perhaps this William Caldow was a relative to George being listed as about 5 years older than him and the name not being a real common name in those records.) Arrangements were made for Veronica to come with William to Utah he being responsible for her and paying her way. Her family apparently were all agreeable to her coming, thinking it was best for her to be with her brothers and sister in Utah and with the body of the church she had joined. None of her family joined the Church that we are aware of at present nor do we know who any of them are at the present time. (If any family members have information about Caldow's in Scotland perhaps in area we have talked about in this history we would like to know about them so we can try and contact them as a family organization.) Veronica was in straitened circumstances and at the age of 62 years, suitable work was hard to find in Scotland. Perhaps she hoped at some future time, at least part of her family would join her, but this was not to be.

Preparations were made as soon as possible for their departure after her brother William and family was baptised into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day-Saints. Sturdy boxes were made for their possessions. One each for their personal belongings and several large ones for general storage. Each box was labeled with their name and destination. I can well remember Aunt Vachey's labeled, Veronica M. Cadau, Utah, U.S.A. They were painted a steel gray with black lettering. Several years later, Auntie's was painted red. Crissie Lindsay Duke was the proud owner of Aunt Vachey's box. The story of their trip from Liverpool, England to Heber City, Utah was printed in the 4 Edition of the MURDOCH MESSENGER taken from the diary of David Lennox Murdoch so will not be repeated here except that he said on their fourth day at sea, "Father and Aunt never been sick at all." and on their ninth day at sea "None of our ladies up this morning except Aunt." So apparently Veronica had a fairly good voyage without too much seasickness which the others seem to have severely suffered from. Arrived S.L.C. June 13, 1878.

After Veronica, William, David L., his wife Elizabeth, Margaret & Janet reached Heber City they were all housed in a small home rented from a Mr. Thomas Giles. It was located on the north west corner of second north and third west. The house faced the south. It consisted of one large log room with a lean-to room on the north, a front porch the entire length of the south of the house, a root cellar and woodshed on the west. They managed well for a time and then David and Lizzie found a home to themselves. William and the girls and John Adamson moved to Lake Creek where Father had bought a farm. John Adamson and Margaret had been married by this time and later on Janet was married to William Baird.

Veronica was married to Thomas Giles July 3, 1879 and continued to live in the little home she had rented from him. Thomas had been born in Lowdam, Nottinghamshire, England on 3 October 1804 and had married a Maria Kirkham on the 30 May 1832 in England. "They joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints about 1860. In March 1862, they sailed from Liverpool, England, for America. There were five children in the family. the eldest daughter, being married, remained in England. Thomas, a son, died while crossing the ocean and was buried at sea. The ship had to be repaired while crossing and they were six weeks reaching America. They took the train from New York to St. Louis, then traveled by boat up the Missouri River to Florence, Nebraska. There they joined the immigrants of Captain Duncan's company and traveled to Utah. They left the immigrant company in Echo Canyon and came by way of Silver Creek directly to Heber, arriving in September, 1862." (How Beautiful Upon the Mountains by Wasatch County Daughters of Utah Pioneers page 371-372)

Thomas Giles youngest child William M. Giles had married in 1871 Ann Murdoch, a daughter of John Murray Murdoch and a niece of Veronicas. Thomas first wife Maria died March 1, 1887 in Heber. Thomas died on July 1 1887. So Veronica was married to him for about eight years. Her life with him was a pleasant one. He provided well for her and when he died he left moderate means to take care of her needs. She had a pleasant disposition and with her bit of humor and Scotch-broque she fit in to all occasions. They had many friends and were invited to all socials and entertainments. After she was again left a widow she lived alone for several years.

Her nearest neighbors, other than relatives, were Katie and Mary Forman, Mary Montgomery, Ann Howarth, Harriet Luke and Esther Hoagland. Harriet and Esther kept a cow and each day she herded it along the streets or in the lot by the old rock school house about second west and third north. I have gone with Auntie many times to find her friend Esther and while they chatted I would herd the cow. Esther also sold sulphur matches and mother (Mary Reid Lindsay Murdoch) would sometimes send me to buy a box and she would tell me to stop in at Aunties and fill up her wee match holder on the mantel.

Aunt Vachey did some knitting but her main pastime was sewing carpet rags for people. She always kept busy. She loved pets and had one large yellow dog called Charley. She would give a low whistle and call (Chair-ly) and he would come on the run to be fed or petted. She also kept a multitude of cats, much to the dislike of visitors, but they were company for Auntie and that was all that mattered. Even with all the cats, there were still mice to be troublesome. Auntie liked to tell jokes on herself. I remember

her telling of going to the doctor. She had been bothered with a chest pain and went to have an examination. She told the doctor how miserable the pain was and also said, "I feel like there is something living about me." When she unbuttoned the tight quilted basque she was wearing, a poor little mouse jumped out. She and the doctor had a good laugh. He said, "Sure enough: Auntie there was something living about you."

She looked well in her clothes. She always liked pretty hats. I remember one time when she came to show us a new hat she had bought at Lovisa Alexander's Hat Shop. Another time while she was staying with cousin Mary Mair and William Lindsay she got a new bonnet style hat and a new dress and small cape. I thought no one ever had a prettier Auntie.

She was kind to all of us children, always bringing us a bit of candy or a cookie. What a treat when she would open her box and give us a peppermint or a pink musk candy, and to smell the orange peel. They were her perfumes.

Father (William) and Uncle John M. kept a watchful eye on her. They arranged to have my brother Louis or cousin Rue, who was living with his grandmother Bella at that time, take turns going each morning to see if she was up and to start her fire for her. They, along with other sons of the relatives, kept Auntie in kindling wood and other fuel.

Every Christmas Eve and also New Years Eve Auntie would hang her stocking on her outside door knob knowing that it would be filled. New Years was (Hogmanay) and I was led to believe on that eve the Scotch Santa came all the way from Scotland to fill the stockings.

The time came now that Auntie was no longer able to live alone, so she spent a few months as a time with all her kin. It must have been hard for her to give up her little home but she didn't object and all enjoyed having her.

I have some pleasant memories of her visits at our house. One time she had a close call to being hurt when she fell in a trench during the time that the water lines were being put in Heber, she slipped off the boardwalk across the trench on main street. It was about dark and she walked back and forth calling for help. Finally a friend and neighbor heard her and helped her to climb out. She must have been near 80 years old but she laughed about it and paid no attention to the bruises. I think if she were telling this story she would say, "It was thru the Pu o a guid frien and neighbor that she was oot."

One time when she was living with cousin Mary and William in Lake Creek, she came to visit us while they were away shopping. She said to Father, "Noo, Willie, when I lived wi you I voted Democate, noo I'm wi William and Mary I've voted Republican." Crissie Lindsay Duke told me that Auntie entered into their childish games and enjoyed them. One night while her mother and father were away to a party, they began some childish pranks. They were kneeling over and Auntie tried it to. She couldn't quite make it so Dave gave her a push. Over she went and to cause a laugh she said, "Oh! Oh! you've broken my neck."

I like to think of the story she told of putting the tea leaves oot to dry thinking they'll due to lend. She couldn't keep secrets very well, so if a surprise party was to be given she was late in hearing about it. One time when a party was to be held for Aunt Mary, Auntie rushed in ahead of the others and said, "Mary, a wheen folk are coming but dinna let on." The dear old soul must have had many hours of loneliness, living to be 92 years of age, thinking of her family in Scotland. I am sure that in the beginning she had hopes that they too would come to Zion. Now her only hope was to meet them in their eternal home. She was not one to burden others with her heartaches and woes. She went on about each days duties keeping silent on any unpleasant thoughts.

To know her was to love her. Her last days were with her nephew Andrew Mair and his good wife Mary Ann. She passed away at their home October 4, 1908. Her funeral service was held in the Wasatch Stake House. Burial was in the Heber City Cemetary.

(Editors Note: Veronica had the following children, who must have been dead, sealed to Thomas Giles on Sept 19, 1890 in the Manti Temple: Alexander, William, Thomas, Joseph, David, Brigham, and Nephi. As far as we can determine the first four children who were alive then have had their baptism and endowment work done but have never been sealed to any parents. Brigham and Nephi have not been baptised or endowed. These two children were also not on early family records done by David L. Murdoch and Joseph A. Murdoch so more accurate research needs to be done back in the records of Scotland to find the exact births of all of Veronicas children and the death date of George her first husband. I tried to do some but ran out of time to complete this project before this edition of the MURDOCH MESSENGER had to be printed so more research needs to be done yet. I always have questions come up in preparing these papers and it would be so very helpful to have someone to help do some research because I do not have time enough. Let me know if you want to volunteer and I will give you the Question that need verfiying to work on.) This history on Veronica was written from the following records.

1. James Murdoch Family Records done by David L. Murdoch, Joseph A. Murdoch and Ruby E. Hooper.
2. History Veronica Murdoch Caldau Giles by her niece Lizzabelle Murdoch Davis
3. Census Records Genealogical Libaray in Salt Lake City, Utah
4. "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains" by the Wasatch County Daughter of Utah Pioneers
5. David Lennox Murdoch "Scottish Missionary Journal 1905-8-7" and writings about the "Murdochs"